

Friday, February 25 after a full, rich life, at the age of 79. We should all be so lucky as to have the many close friends and the large and loving family that he did.

Wing Fat was born in Canton, China, in 1925. When he was 10 years old, along with his father he emigrated to America, settling in Sacramento. As a young adult, he served in the U.S. Air Force and graduated from Sacramento State University. For 66 years, Wing Fat worked in "Frank Fat's," his legendary father's restaurant, until his retirement just a few years ago. Before his retirement, the very successful Fat family restaurant business grew to include 10 restaurants.

Wing Fat and "Frank Fat's" were mainstays in the Sacramento political and cultural communities. A well-known location for political deal-making, the restaurant was renowned as much for Wing Fat's personality as it was for the great food. Wing Fat was a truly warm man, whose affectionate laugh and inviting presence always made those around him feel welcome and comfortable. Although he had much to boast, he was remembered as "one of the humblest men you could ever meet." His warmth and humility were matched only by his tact; his motto was "You listen, but you never tell." When he passed away he took decades of private political information with him, gleaned from years of being a trusted host to the Sacramento political community. It is no surprise that Wing Fat became such a successful restaurateur and that his business became a trusted venue for those involved in Sacramento politics.

Mr. Fat generously shared his successes with his friends and his community. In addition to the counsel he offered countless mayors and council members, Mr. Fat founded a number of local cultural and civic organizations that will contribute to the Sacramento area for years to come. In November 2004, Mr. Fat culminated his truly generous philanthropic career with a \$1 million donation to the Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation to build a new sports center in Laguna.

Mr. Speaker, Sacramento has lost a civic treasure and a wonderful man. Although it will never be the same without Wing Fat, he leaves behind a wonderful family, friends whose lives he touched, restaurants that continue to provide a warm place for people to gather, and charitable work and donations that will enrich Sacramento for years to come. I am honored to have an opportunity here to say not only "goodbye" to Mr. Fat, but also to say "thank you."

RECOGNIZING BENNETT COLLEGE ON THE OCCASION OF PRESIDENT JOHNNETTA B. COLE'S APPEARANCE BEFORE THE TIDEWATER ALUMNAE CHAPTER, MARCH 18-19, 2005

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bennett College and its president, Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole, on the occasion

of her appearance before the Tidewater Alumnae Chapter for its annual White Breakfast on March 19, 2005.

Bennett College is an historically black college and university founded in 1873 in Greensboro, North Carolina, through the inspiration of newly emancipated slaves. Instruction was first held in the basement of St. Matthew's United Methodist Church until the Freedmen's Aid and Southern Education Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church assumed responsibility for support of the school in 1874. Through a \$10,000 gift from philanthropist Lyman Bennett the school was able to prosper and grow, and the school was renamed in his honor. In 1926, the school was reorganized as a college for women, a role that it continues to serve today. In 1989, Bennett College had the distinction of having First Lady Barbara Bush as its commencement speaker.

For over 130 years, Bennett College has served the needs of the African American community in North Carolina and its surrounding area. Since 1930, Bennett College has graduated over 5,000 women, many serving in the education profession. My home city of Chesapeake, Virginia, has been particularly reliant on the service of Bennett College alumnae as career teachers in the Chesapeake Public School System. I am grateful to Bennett College for this contribution to my congressional district.

In 2002, the esteemed Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole became the 14th president of Bennett College. Her career as a college university professor and administrator spans over three decades. In 1987, she made history as the first African American woman to serve as president of Spelman College. In 2004, she made history again as the first African American woman to serve as chair of the board of the United Way of America. I am proud to have her visit my district and applaud the Tidewater Alumnae Chapter of Bennett College for bringing her to Virginia on the occasion of their annual White Breakfast.

The Tidewater Alumnae Chapter has distinguished itself in southeastern Virginia through its contribution to the community. Among their members are many present and former teachers of the Chesapeake Public School System. Their professional contribution to my district is significant, and I thank them for their accomplishments on the occasion of their annual White Breakfast.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Bennett College, Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole, and the Tidewater Alumnae Chapter of Bennett College for their record of service and contribution to our Nation and to my district. It is truly my honor and privilege to recognize Bennett College, Dr. Cole and the Tidewater Alumnae Chapter in the United States House of Representatives on this day.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF STATE SENATOR KEN ARMBRISTER

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the many accomplishments of Texas State Senator Ken Armbrister, of my Congressional District.

Ken Armbrister began his public service career in law enforcement. After graduating from Sam Houston State University, he attended the FBI National Academy. He served as a police officer for 14 years, and rose to the rank of captain and director of the Victoria Regional Police Academy. He was honored with the Defender of the Peace award by the Sam Houston State University College of Criminal Justice, and was twice named a Top Ten Crime Fighter by the Greater Dallas Crime Commission.

Mr. Armbrister was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1983, and to the Texas Senate in 1987. He served as President Pro Tempore, as acting Governor, and was honored as one of the best legislators in Texas. He currently serves on the Senate Committees on Business and Commerce, Government Organization, and State Affairs, and is chairman of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. He continues to work at the forefront of critical legislation, and authored the landmark legislation that established the Edwards Aquifer Authority that provided for the water needs of a 26 county area of south Texas.

Ken Armbrister repaid the trust of the people of Texas with a lifetime of dedicated and effective public service. He is an inspiration to the people of the community, of what and show's man's commitment and energy can accomplish.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have the opportunity to recognize State Senator Ken Armbrister.

RECOGNIZING NEW JERSEY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the New Jersey State Law Enforcement Officers Association. Since 1938, the New Jersey Law Enforcement Officers Association and its members have worked to keep New Jersey safe from criminals and have sought to recognize those officers who go above and beyond the call of duty.

Our law enforcement officers risk their lives daily by placing the safety of others before themselves. We must never forget the sacrifice of our fallen officers who have given all to protect our families and communities.

Our local law enforcement officers are now a part of the front line in the battle to keep

America safe from terrorist threats and on a daily basis confront the specter of further attacks. We must recognize the crucial role our local law enforcement plays in the war on terror and provide them the support they need to keep us safe.

The New Jersey State Law Enforcement Officers Association, in recognition of the importance of coordinating law enforcement, numbers Federal, State, county and municipal law enforcement agents in its membership. By working together professionally and with the association, our law enforcement officers can easily share information about criminal threats.

Our thoughts and prayers are with our law enforcement officers and with their families. We owe a great debt to those who work to keep us safe and it is only fitting that Congress recognize the work of these guardians of peace.

LEGISLATION CONDEMNING RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION AND INTOLERANCE IN INDIA

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce this Resolution to condemn the alleged statements and actions of complacency by the government authorities in Gujarat, led by Chief Minister Narendra Modi, in the face of the religious persecution of the Gujarati people.

In February of 2002, India experienced its greatest human rights crisis in a decade: orchestrated violence against Muslims in the state of Gujarat that claimed at least 2,000 lives in a matter of days. Three years after that horrific incident, Narendra Modi, the Chief Minister of Gujarat has been indicted by various Indian and International human rights organizations for lending his hand to the violence.

Mr. Modi himself has not been shy about proudly professing his anti-Christian, anti-Muslim, and anti-tribal stances. He has repeatedly dehumanized the Muslim population of his state by accusing them of treachery; he has actively sought to interfere in the practice of the Christian faith in Gujarat, and he has caused wide-scale displacement of indigenous populations in the state in the face of stiff popular resistance. I find Mr. Modi's actions to be of the most reprehensible sort.

In an article in the Hindu Times on March 2, 2005, former Indian President K.R. Narayanan stated that "there was a 'conspiracy' between the BJP governments at the Centre and the state behind the 2002 Gujarat riots . . .". Further, a number of Indian human rights organizations, international human rights organizations, and a former Supreme Court Justice all recognize Chief Minister Modi's complicity in the violence.

He has attacked Muslims and Christians with vile venom, and according to both India's highest court and many international human rights groups, has condoned terrible, violent religious hate crimes, all the while, shielding those said to have committed them. In fact, in

a scathing indictment of Mr. Modi, the Supreme Court of India referred to the Chief Minister and his government as "the modern day Neros." Moreover, in a recent unprecedented order, the Supreme Court of India ordered the reopening of all the criminal cases that Mr. Modi has closed, regarding over 2,000 police cases in which the non-Hindu victims filed reports of rapes, killings, and destruction of their property.

Such actions by high ranking government officials of any religion are unacceptable and must not be tolerated.

I urge my colleagues to join me in condemning religious intolerance and promoting religious freedom, so that others may see what our great democracy stands for.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF TEXAS REPRESENTATIVE CARLOS URESTI

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker rise to recognize State Representative Carlos I. Uresti for a lifetime of distinguished public service.

Representative Uresti is a native of San Antonio, and a graduate of McCollum High School. He continued his education by earning a bachelor of arts degree in political science and a teacher's certificate from Saint Mary's University. After graduation he served 4 years in the United States Marine Corps, where he was awarded the Naval Achievement Medal. When his service to the Marines was over he returned to San Antonio and enrolled at Saint Mary's school of Law, where he received his law degree in 1992. He is currently is a partner at the law offices of Gonzales Hoblit & Ferguson.

In June 1997 Carlos Uresti was elected to the Texas House of Representatives. He honorably serves as chairman of the Committee of Human Services, and as a member on the Committee on Elections and Select Committee on Healthcare Expenditures. As a former marine, he is proud to serve as a member of the Texas House Veterans Coalition and the United States Marine Corps League.

During his time in office, Representative Carlos Uresti fought to prevent child abuse and neglect. He was instrumental in the creation of Bexar County's Blue Ribbon Task Force, a coalition that brings community members together to fight the cause against child abuse, and is a member of numerous organizations that help educate our youth.

Mr. Speaker, Representative Carlos I. Uresti is a credit to his community and I am honored to have had this opportunity to recognize the many achievements of this great public servant.

THANKING MARY D. WATTS FOR HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement in April 2005, we rise to thank Ms. Mary D. Watts for 26 years of distinguished service to the United States House of Representatives.

Mary began serving the United States House of Representatives in 1979 as a Technical Support Specialist working at House Information Systems. Milestones during her career at the House include conducting the first evaluations for office fax machines in 1980 and Personal Computers in 1984. She was instrumental in establishing training and support for House staff to make use of the new technologies associated with desktop computers.

As the Division Manager for the Customer Services Group, Mary managed the House computer helpdesk staff, Field Service Technicians and System Integrators providing technical support, and consulting services to every Member, Committee and Leadership office of the House.

Managing the day-to-day operations of the Technical Support Branch, Mary is responsible for information technology solutions and support services for 12,000 personal computers and over 4,000 BlackBerry wireless devices in Washington, DC, and more than 950 district offices across this country.

Mary's contributions while serving the United States House of Representatives have been significant. Her passionate customer service, organizational knowledge, and personnel management skills earned her the reputation among her colleagues and customers as a person with a calm demeanor and respect for everyone.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Mary for her many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish Mary many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

SMALL COMMUNITY OPTIONS FOR REGULATORY EQUITY ACT

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Small Community Options for Regulatory Equity Act. Rural communities across my state and elsewhere are being unfairly burdened by Environmental Protection Agency regulations that have questionable benefit.

While we all want to ensure a clean, safe drinking water supply for our communities, we must remember that fiscal restraints sometimes require tradeoffs and accommodations. Many small communities believe that EPA regulations will do more harm than good by wasting limited public health funds complying with